

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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NANCY SHINABARGAR,

Plaintiff,

v.

Board of Trustees of the University of the  
District of Columbia, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:14-cv-00072-MMD-WGC

ORDER

(Defs.' Motion to Dismiss  
– dkt. no. 25)

Before the Court is a motion to dismiss (“Motion”) filed by Defendants Board of Trustees of The University of The District of Columbia (“UDC”), Katherine S. Broderick, Annamaria Steward, Marc Strothers, Larry Volz, Thomas Mack, Kemit Mawakana, Mohamed Taqi Tirmazi, and Karen Evans (dkt. no. 25). The Court has reviewed Plaintiff Nancy Shinabargar’s opposition (dkt. no. 36) and Defendants’ reply (dkt. no. 41). For the reasons discussed below, the Court grants the Motion in part and transfers this matter to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.


Between August 2011 and February or March 2012, Plaintiff was enrolled in UDC’s David A. Clarke School of Law (the “Law School”). (See dkt. no. 12 ¶¶ 4, 20, 123.) Plaintiff resides in Nevada; she relocated to Washington, D.C., to attend the Law School. (*Id.* ¶¶ 2-3.) Proceeding pro se, Plaintiff alleges that during her time at the Law School, UDC and several individuals associated with the institution denied her reasonable accommodations for her physical disability and subjected her to retaliatory disciplinary processes. She asserts that Defendants’ actions violated her constitutional

1 rights and her rights under federal disability and civil rights statutes, and gave rise to  
2 other common law causes of action. (*Id.* at 50-59.)

3 Plaintiff initiated this action on February 4, 2014. (Dkt. no. 1-1.) Plaintiff filed a  
4 First Amended Complaint as a matter of course in March 2014. (Dkt. no. 12; see dkt. no.  
5 11.) Defendants filed the Motion on June 10, 2014, seeking dismissal for lack of  
6 personal jurisdiction under Rule 12(b)(2), improper venue under Rule 12(b)(3), and  
7 improper pleadings pursuant to Rules 8(a) and 12(b)(6). (Dkt. no. 25.) In the alternative,  
8 Defendants request a transfer of this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1404 and 1406 to the  
9 U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, where UDC is located and where the  
10 incidents at issue in this matter took place. (*Id.* at 12.) In her opposition brief, Plaintiff  
11 states that “she would accept a transfer of venue to [the] U.S. District Court in  
12 Washington, D.C., in the ‘interests of justice,’ with accommodation made for her ADA-  
13 qualifying disability.” (Dkt. no. 36 ¶ 62.) In light of the fact that the parties do not dispute  
14 a transfer to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, the Court finds that such  
15 a transfer would be in the interest of justice. The Court need not resolve Defendants’  
16 jurisdictional arguments before transferring this matter. See *Goldlawr, Inc. v. Heiman*,  
17 369 U.S. 463, 466 (1962).

18 It is ordered that Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss (dkt. no. 25) is granted in part.  
19 This matter is to be transferred to the United States District Court for the District of  
20 Columbia.

21 DATED THIS 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 2015.

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25 MIRANDA M. DU  
26 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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